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Executive Registry

77-10503

Exec File
Congress of the United States
Committee on International Relations

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

November 29, 1977

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
McLean, Virginia

Dear Admiral Turner:

With the enactment of the Arms Export Control Act in 1976, the United States has taken several steps to increase regulation of the export of conventional defense articles and services. This year in his May 19 policy statement, the President initiated further actions affecting conventional arms transfer and announced that "the United States will henceforth view arms transfers as an exceptional foreign policy implement."

To many in Congress, the success of United States efforts to control and restrain the export of weapons will to a large extent depend upon the ability of the United States to gain cooperation from other principal arms exporting nations. The Arms Export Control Act in fact expresses the sense of Congress, in this regard, that the President should seek to initiate multilateral discussions for the purpose of reaching agreements with other principal suppliers and purchasers to control the international trade in armaments.

It has come to my attention that a recent study by the CIA entitled Comparison of U.S. and Soviet Arms Sales to Less Developed Countries, 1974-76, issued this month, offers valuable information concerning the measurement of U.S. sales in terms comparable to those of the Soviet Union, the other major conventional weapons supplier. To

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(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE *Congress*)

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further public awareness of the difficulties involved in a unilateral effort to reduce arms transfers throughout the world, I respectfully request that you consider declassifying this document so that it would be available for public use.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Chairman

CJZ:vhd

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	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	ADDCI		X		
3	LegCounsel	X			
4	D/NFAC		X		
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SUSPENSE		8 December 1977 <small>Date</small>			

Remarks:

Please prepare DCI response.

Executive Secretary
2 December 1977
Date

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